

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: K. Matsumura et al. : Art Unit:
Serial No.: To Be Assigned : Examiner:
Filed: Herewith :
FOR: RECEIVING CONTROL DEVICE, :
MEDIUM AND INFORMATION AGGREGATE :

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

S I R :

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the following paragraphs with the following:

At page 4, line 18:

One aspect of the present invention is a receiving control device comprising:

At page 5, line 11:

Another aspect of the present invention is a receiving control device comprising:

At page 6, lines 5-7:

Still another aspect of the present invention is a receiving control device, wherein said obtained program information includes at least broadcast channel number, broadcast start time and broadcast end time.

At page 6, lines 10-12:

Yet another aspect of the present invention is a receiving control device, wherein said retrieval means retrieves program information to obtain a program relating to said keyword.

At page 6, lines 15-17:

Still yet another aspect of the present invention is a receiving control device, wherein

At page 7, lines 2-3:

A further aspect of the present invention is a receiving control device, further comprising video recording medium control means of operating a recording medium for recording video information, wherein

At page 7, lines 17-19:

A still further aspect of the present invention is a receiving control device, wherein said keyword input means inputs said keywords from a keyword server connected to said network and used to transmit said keywords.

At page 7, lines 22-23:

A yet still further aspect of the present invention is a receiving control device, wherein

At page 8, lines 4-6:

A still yet further aspect of the present invention is a receiving control device, further comprising program information change monitoring means

09871061.053101
T07E50 T90T2860

for carrying out monitoring as to whether program information stored in said program information server is renewed or not, wherein

At page 8, lines 17-18:

An additional further aspect of the present invention is a receiving control device, wherein said detection is carried out by making inquiries to said program information server at predetermined time intervals as to the renewal time of said program information stored in said program information server.

At page 8, lines 23-25:

A still additional further aspect of the present invention is a receiving control device, further comprising an area information holding means of holding area information for specifying an area wherein said receiving control device itself is installed, wherein

At page 9, lines 10-12:

A yet still additional further aspect of the present invention is a receiving control device, further comprising a program information display means of displaying program information, wherein

At page 9, lines 24-25 and page 10, line 1:

A still yet further aspect of the present invention is a receiving control device, wherein said program information server has the function of said keyword server.

At page 10, lines 3 and lines 6-7:

A supplementary aspect of the present invention is a medium having programs and/or data for activating all or part of functions of all or part of means of said receiving control device on a computer, wherein said medium can be processed by a computer.

At page 10, line 9 and lines 12-13:

A still supplementary aspect of the present invention is an information aggregate characterized by programs and/or data for activating all or part of functions of all or part of means of said receiving control device on a computer.

CLAIMS:

Please replace claims 4-5, 7, 9 and 11-15 as follows:

1 4. (Amended) A receiving control device in accordance with
2 any one of claims 1 to 2, wherein said retrieval means retrieves program
3 information to obtain a program relating to said keyword.

1 5. (Amended) A receiving control device in accordance with any one
2 of claims 1 to 2, wherein

3 said retrieval means transmits said keyword input via a network to a
4 program information server connected to said network,

5 said program information server stores program information, and
6 retrieves program information of a program relating to said keyword from said
7 stored program information by using said transmitted keyword, and

8 said retrieval means obtains said program information retrieved by
9 said program information server.

1 7. (Amended) A receiving control device in accordance with
2 claim 5, wherein said keyword input means inputs said keywords from a keyword
3 server connected to said network and used to transmit said keywords.

1 9. (Amended) A receiving control device in accordance with
2 claim 5, further comprising program information change monitoring means for
3 carrying out monitoring as to whether program information stored in said program
4 information server is renewed or not, wherein

5 when said program information change monitoring means detects
6 that the program information stored in said program information server is renewed

after the time when said retrieval means last obtained program information of a program relating to said keyword,

said retrieval means renews said obtained program information on the basis of the result of said detection.

11. (Amended) A receiving control device in accordance with claim 5, further comprising an area information holding means of holding area information for specifying an area wherein said receiving control device itself is installed, wherein

when transmitting said input keywords to said program information server, said retrieval means also transmits said area information to said program information server, and

said program information server carries out retrieval in consideration of said transmitted area information.

12. (Amended) A receiving control device in accordance with any one of claims 1 to 2, further comprising a program information display means of displaying program information, wherein

said program information display means displays said program information in a table format including at least said keywords or said remote controller channel numbers corresponding to said keywords, time information, program titles,

one of the ordinate and the abscissa of said format represents said keywords or said remote controller channel numbers corresponding to said keywords, and the other represents time information.

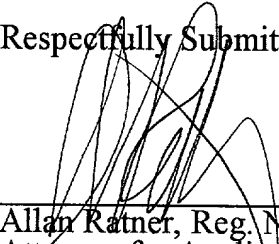
13. (Amended) A receiving control device in accordance with claim 7, wherein said program information server has the function of said keyword server.

14. (Amended) A medium having programs and/or data for activating all or part of functions of all or part of means of said receiving control device in accordance with any one of claims 1 to 2 on a computer, wherein said medium can be processed by a computer.

- 1 15. (Amended) An information aggregate characterized by
- 2 programs and/or data for activating all or part of functions of all or part of means
- 3 of said receiving control device in accordance with any one of claims 1 to 2 on a
- 4 computer.

09871064-053101

Respectfully Submitted,



Allan Ratner, Reg. No. 19,717
Attorney for Applicants

AR/ap
Dated: May 31, 2001

Suite 301
One Westlakes, Berwyn
P.O. Box 980
Valley Forge, PA 19482-0980
(610) 407-0700

The Assistant Commissioner for Patents is
hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit
Account No. **18-0350** of any fees associated
with this communication.

EXPRESS MAIL Mailing Label Number: EL854576433US

Date of Deposit: May 31, 2001

I hereby certify that this paper and fee are being deposited, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 and with sufficient postage, using the "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service of the United States Postal Service on the date indicated above and that the deposit is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.



Kathleen Libby

Kathleen Libby

09874061-063101

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADESPECIFICATION:

At page 4, line 18:

~~The 1st invention~~One aspect of the present invention is a receiving control device comprising:

At page 5, line 11:

~~The 2nd invention~~Another aspect of the present invention is a receiving control device comprising:

At page 6, lines 5-7:

~~The 3rd invention~~Still another aspect of the present invention is a receiving control device ~~in accordance with 1st or 2nd inventions~~, wherein said obtained program information includes at least broadcast channel number, broadcast start time and broadcast end time.

At page 6, lines 10-12:

~~The 4th invention~~Yet another aspect of the present invention is a receiving control device ~~in accordance with any one of 1st to 3rd inventions~~, wherein said retrieval means retrieves program information to obtain a program relating to said keyword.

At page 6, lines 15-17:

~~The 5th invention~~Still yet another aspect of the present invention is a receiving control device ~~in accordance with any one of 1st to 3rd inventions~~, wherein

At page 7, lines 2-3:

09871061-053101
T07E90 T90T7860

~~The 6th invention~~ A further aspect of the present invention is a receiving control device in accordance with 5th invention, further comprising video recording medium control means of operating a recording medium for recording video information, wherein

At page 7, lines 17-19:

~~The 7th invention~~ A still further aspect of the present invention is a receiving control device in accordance with 5th or 6th inventions, wherein said keyword input means inputs said keywords from a keyword server connected to said network and used to transmit said keywords.

At page 7, lines 22-23:

~~The 8th invention~~ A yet still further aspect of the present invention is a receiving control device in accordance with 7th invention, wherein

At page 8, lines 4-6:

~~The 9th invention~~ A still yet further aspect of the present invention is a receiving control device in accordance with any one of 5th to 8th inventions, further comprising program information change monitoring means for carrying out monitoring as to whether program information stored in said program information server is renewed or not, wherein

At page 8, lines 17-18:

~~The 10th invention~~ An additional further aspect of the present invention is a receiving control device in accordance with 9th invention, wherein said detection is carried out by making inquiries to said program information server at predetermined time intervals as to the renewal time of said program information stored in said program information server.

At page 8, lines 23-25:

~~The 11th invention~~ A still additional further aspect of the present invention is a receiving control device ~~in accordance with any one of 5th to 10th inventions~~, further comprising an area information holding means of holding area information for specifying an area wherein said receiving control device itself is installed, wherein

At page 9, lines 10-12:

~~The 12th invention~~ A yet still additional further aspect of the present invention is a receiving control device ~~in accordance with any one of 1st to 11th inventions~~, further comprising a program information display means of displaying program information, wherein

At page 9, lines 24-25 and page 10, line 1:

~~The 13th invention~~ A still yet further aspect of the present invention is a receiving control device ~~in accordance with 7th or 8th inventions~~, wherein said program information server has the function of said keyword server.

At page 10, lines 3 and lines 6-7:

~~The 14th invention~~ A supplementary aspect of the present invention is a medium having programs and/or data for activating all or part of functions of all or part of means of said receiving control device ~~in accordance with any one of 1st to 13th inventions~~ on a computer, wherein said medium can be processed by a computer.

At page 10, line 9 and lines 12-13:

~~The 15th invention~~ A still supplementary aspect of the present invention is an information aggregate characterized by programs and/or data for activating all or part of functions of all or part of means of said receiving control device ~~in accordance with any one of 1st to 13th inventions~~ on a computer.

CLAIMS:

1 4. (Amended) A receiving control device in accordance with
2 any one of claims 1 to 32, wherein said retrieval means retrieves program
3 information to obtain a program relating to said keyword.

1 5. (Amended) A receiving control device in accordance with any one
2 of claims 1 to 32, wherein

3 said retrieval means transmits said keyword input via a network to a
4 program information server connected to said network,

5 said program information server stores program information, and
6 retrieves program information of a program relating to said keyword from said
7 stored program information by using said transmitted keyword, and

8 said retrieval means obtains said program information retrieved by
9 said program information server.

1 7. (Amended) A receiving control device in accordance with
2 claim 5 or 6, wherein said keyword input means inputs said keywords from a
3 keyword server connected to said network and used to transmit said keywords.

1 9. (Amended) A receiving control device in accordance with
2 ~~any one of claims 5 to 8~~, further comprising program information change
3 monitoring means for carrying out monitoring as to whether program information
4 stored in said program information server is renewed or not, wherein

5 when said program information change monitoring means detects
6 that the program information stored in said program information server is renewed
7 after the time when said retrieval means last obtained program information of a
8 program relating to said keyword,

9 said retrieval means renews said obtained program information on
10 the basis of the result of said detection.

1 11. (Amended) A receiving control device in accordance with
2 ~~any one of claims 5 to 10~~, further comprising an area information holding means
3 of holding area information for specifying an area wherein said receiving control
4 device itself is installed, wherein

09871061-05101

5 when transmitting said input keywords to said program information
6 server, said retrieval means also transmits said area information to said program
7 information server, and

8 said program information server carries out retrieval in consideration
9 of said transmitted area information.

1 12. (Amended) A receiving control device in accordance with
2 any one of claims 1 to ~~11~~12, further comprising a program information display
3 means of displaying program information, wherein

4 said program information display means displays said program
5 information in a table format including at least said keywords or said remote
6 controller channel numbers corresponding to said keywords, time information,
7 program titles,

8 one of the ordinate and the abscissa of said format represents said
9 keywords or said remote controller channel numbers corresponding to said
10 keywords, and the other represents time information.

1 13. (Amended) A receiving control device in accordance with
2 claim 7-~~or~~8, wherein said program information server has the function of said
3 keyword server.

1 14. (Amended) A medium having programs and/or data for
2 activating all or part of functions of all or part of means of said receiving control
3 device in accordance with any one of claims 1 to ~~13~~12 on a computer, wherein said
4 medium can be processed by a computer.

1 15. (Amended) An information aggregate characterized by
2 programs and/or data for activating all or part of functions of all or part of means
3 of said receiving control device in accordance with any one of claims 1 to ~~13~~12 on a
4 computer.